

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 DPW-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /114 W
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P 151236 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3267

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 10805

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP, MR I, X PLUS 138, JUNE 15

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL DANANG JUNE 15 TH,
1973 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0706

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJ: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, X PLUS 138, JUNE 15

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED SOMEWHAT. REPORTED COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY TO 25 MADE UP OF 5 GROUND ATTACKS 19 ABFS (15 ROCKET AND 273 MORTAR) AND 1 HARASSMENT. 15 ENGAGEMENTS WERE SHOWN. FOR THE SECOND DAY NORTHERN I CORPS HAD NO MAJOR INCIDENTS REPORTED. A REGIONAL FORCE BN HAD 2 ENGAGEMENTS WEST OF QUANG NGAI CITY AIRFIELD RESULTING IN 5 ENEMY KIA. REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY WEST OF SON TINH (QUANG NGAI) RECEIVED AN ABF AND A GROUND ATTACK RESULTING IN 1 FRIENDLY KIA, 6 ENEMY KIA. ALSO IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE REGIONAL FORCE BN AND THE 20 TH ARTILLERY BN RECEIVED 15 ROCKET ROUNDS RESULTING IN 1 FRIENDLY WIA. REGION- WIDE CASUALTIES WERE: FRIENDLY 9 KIA, 29 WIA; ENEMY 24 KIA,
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1 CAPTURED, 1 RETURNEE. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED 1185 ROUNDS,
545 NORTH OF HAI VAN PASS, 640 SOUTH.

2. ICCS ACTIVITY:

A. POLOFF HUE REPORTS THAT AT THE REQUEST OF THE GVN ELEMENT OF THE REGION I JMC, DURING THE PAST WEEK MEMBERS OF THE PHU BAI CANDEL CONDUCTED THREE ONE- HOUR INTERROGATIONS OF AN NVA DEFECTOR. THEY USED A TAPE RECORDER IN CASE HIS ACCENT MIGHT CONCLUSIVELY ESTABLISH HIS ORIGIN. THE INVESTIGATION IS NOW CONSIDERED COMPLETE BUT A REPORT HAS NOT YET BEEN FILED WITH THE ICCS IN SAIGON. THE INDONESIANS HAD EARLIER INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVERS, BUT IN FACT THEY MERELY EXAMINED THE RVN TRANSCRIPT OF EARLIER INTERROGATIONS, AND FORWARDED TO SAIGON THEIR SEPARATE "OBSERVATION" AND CONCLUSION THAT BOTH THE DRV AND PRG HAD VIOLATED THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

B. POLOFF HUE FURTHER REPORTS THAT THE ICCS HELD ANOTHER MEETING ON JUNE 12 WITH PRG REP LCOL PHUNG AT THE GIO LINH (TRUC LAM) SITE TO DISCUSS TERMS OF DEPLOYMENT TO THE SITE. THE CANDEL HELD FIRM ON DEMANDS FOR MORE THAN ONE RESUPPLY MISSION PER WEEK, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND ADEQUATE COMMUNICATIONS, WHILE THE POLGARIANS REITERATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO DEPLOY TO GIO LINH AND LAO BAO AT ANY TIME. THE PRG ACCEPTED FOR STUDY AN ICCS PLAN FOR A COMMO SYSTEM, BUT ADDED LITTLE REGARDING RESUPPLY AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. THE CANDEL REPORTS NO PROGRESS WAS MADE.

3. GVN MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

ACCORDING TO POLOFF HUE, IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE COMMUNIST LAND GRAB EFFORTS, I CORPS FORWARD YESTERDAY WENT FROM "100 PERCENT RESTRICTION TO QUARTERS" TO "100 PERCENT ALERT". ALTHOUGH EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF RVNAF UNITS TO HOLD THE AREAS, A HIGH OFFICIAL ON THE I CORPS FORWARD STAFF WARNED ESPECIALLY ABOUT POSSIBLE THRUSTS AT THE TRUOI BRIDGE OR IN THE AN LO AREA. TODAY I CORPS FORWARD HAS REDUCED THE ALERT STATUS CONSIDERABLY TO 75 PERCENT RESTRICTION TO QUARTERS. I CORPS REAR IN DANANG REMAINS ON 100 PERCENT RESTRICTION TO QUARTERS.

THOMSEN

UNQUOTE:
WHITEHOUSE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON10805
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730619/aaaajalk.tel
Line Count: 106
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <16-Oct-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980206
Subject: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP, MR I, X PLUS 138, JUNE 15
TAGS: PINT, VS, PINT
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005